

# Gun Ana

**Gun Ana** (Old Turkic: 𐰸𐰇:𐰚𐰍𐰏, Turkish: *Gün Ana*, Azerbaijani : *Gün Ana*, Kyrgyz: *Күн Эне*, Kazakh: *Күн Ана*, Hungarian: *Nap Anya*, Sakha: *Күн Ийэ*, Balkar: *Кюн АНА*, sometimes called *Yaşık Ana*, is the common Turkic solar deity, treated as a goddess in the Kazakh and Kyrgyz mythologies. *Gün Ana* or *Kün Ana* means "Sun Mother" in Turkic languages.

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Gun Ana	
<span></span>	Goddess of the Sun, Life, Fertility, Warmth and Health
Abode	7th floor of the Sky
Symbols	Sun, Khatun
Gender	Female
Consort	Ay Ata
Equivalents	
Hinduism equivalent	Tapati
Canaanite equivalent	Shapash

## Background

Gün Ana is one of the most powerful deities, the goddess of life and fertility, warmth and health. She is patroness of the unfortunate, especially orphans. She lives on the seventh floor of the sky.<sup>[1][2]</sup> *Tengri* created the Earth with rays of sun light, thus, Gun Ana took part in the creation of Earth. Solar rays are also considered to be "strings" between the Sun and the spirits of plants, animals and humans. Turks who worship Gun Ana turn towards the sunrise when praying.

## References in literature

Gün Ana is mentioned in one of the earliest written sources on Turkic mythology. According to Turkic traditions, the powerful god *Kayra* made the Sun and threw it into the sky. Gün Ana and *Ay Ata* (the Moon) were wife and husband.

According to Turkic Mythology, Khagan and his wife are supposed to be the children of the sky and the *Yer* (Land). *Ay Ata* (living in the sixth floor) and Gün Ana (living in the seventh floor) are their representatives in the sky.<sup>[3]</sup>

The feast for Gün Ana is celebrated during the summer solstice in *Northern Hemisphere* on each 21 June.

## See also

- List of solar deities

## References

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1. Anadolu Alevi Kültüründe Kadın, Hüseyin Özcan "[Gün Ana](http://turkoloji.cu.edu.tr/HALKBILIM/huseyin_ozcan_anadolu_alevi_kulturu_kadina_bakis_temeller.pdf)" ([http://turkoloji.cu.edu.tr/HALKBILIM/huseyin\\_ozcan\\_anadolu\\_alevi\\_kulturu\\_kadina\\_bakis\\_temeller.pdf](http://turkoloji.cu.edu.tr/HALKBILIM/huseyin_ozcan_anadolu_alevi_kulturu_kadina_bakis_temeller.pdf))
2. Ziya Gökalp, Türk Medeniyeti Tarihi II, İstanbul, 1974, s. 211.
3. Got from Turkish wikipedia; Ziya Gökalp şöyle demektedir: "Eski Türk telakkisine göre, hakanla hatun gök ile yerin evlatlarıydı. Günes ana ile Ay ata onların gök yüzündeki temsilcileri idi. Hakanın mümessili olan ay ata, gök yüzünün altıncı katında, hatunun mümessili olan gün ana ise daha üstte, gökyüzünün yedinci katında idi."

## Bibliography

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- Türk Mitolojisi, Murat Uraz, 2001, [OCLC 245853289](https://www.worldcat.org/oclc/245853289) (<https://www.worldcat.org/oclc/245853289>) (1994)
- Turkish Myths and Legends Dictionary (Türk Söylence Sözlüğü), Deniz Karakurt (OTRS: CC BY-SA 3.0)
- Ziya Gökalp, Türk Medeniyeti Tarihi II, İstanbul, 1974, s. 211.

## External links

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- (in Turkish) [Türk Mitolojisinde Kırgızlar](http://www.hbvdergisi.gazi.edu.tr/ui/dergiler/22-79-88.pdf), Saadettin Koç (<http://www.hbvdergisi.gazi.edu.tr/ui/dergiler/22-79-88.pdf>)
- (in Turkish) [Halk Meteorolojisi Ekseninde Bir Melheme Örneği](http://web.archive.org/web/20171202211855/http://www.turkishstudies.net/sayilar/sayi13/44sumbulluyusufziya.pdf), Yusuf Ziya SÜMBÜLLÜ (<http://web.archive.org/web/20171202211855/http://www.turkishstudies.net/sayilar/sayi13/44sumbulluyusufziya.pdf>)
- (in Turkish) [Mitoloji](http://web.itu.edu.tr/~yayla/turkmit.pdf) (<http://web.itu.edu.tr/~yayla/turkmit.pdf>)

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